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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION OF

SMITH et al.

Appln. No.: 10/002,616

Filed: December 5, 2001

Title: MELT-PROCESSIBLE, WEAR RESISTANT
POLYETHYLENE



Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

Atty Dkt 065322/0284196
C# M#

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Date: September 23, 2002

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants respectfully submit herewith prior art as cited on the attached PTO Form-1449 for consideration by the Examiner in the above-identified application.

Applicants note that references "RR" and "SR" on page 1 of the attached PTO Form-1449 are in the German language. Regarding the relevance of reference "RR" (H. Hohn *et al.*), Applicants kindly refer the Examiner to the English abstract on page 1 of this article. Regarding "SR" (J. Berzen *et al.*), this reference discusses several methods for determining wear resistance, including a "sand-slurry-Test", and notes that this "sand-slurry-Test" is able to distinguish between polyethylenes of different molecular weight. The reference also compares the wear resistance of several materials, including "Hostalen GUR" (which trademark refers to certain ultrahigh molecular weight polyethylenes prepared with Ziegler catalysts).

Contingent Request Under Rule 97(c): Should a first action on the merits have been issued on the same day or before this Information Disclosure Statement is filed, please accept this Information Disclosure Statement under Rule 97(c) and charge the requisite Rule 17(p) fee to our Deposit Account No. 03-3975, under the above Atty Dkt. No., and proceed to consider this Information Disclosure Statement.

This IDS is intended to be in full compliance with the rules, but should the Examiner find any part of its required content to have been omitted, prompt notice to that effect is earnestly solicited, along with additional time under Rule 97(f), to enable Applicant to comply fully.

Consideration of the foregoing and enclosures plus the return of a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 with the Examiner's initials in the left column per MPEP 609 are earnestly solicited along with an early action on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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